GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HOME AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3234
ANSWERED ON:21.12.2004
OPEN SKY POLICY
Muqueem Shri Mohammed

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has open sky policies and the queues at the Immigration are of unending proportion blocking even the use of escalators;

(b) if so, whether there are any plans to deal with the situation which is giving the country a poor image till a suitable infrastructure is created; and

(c) if so, the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SRIPRAKASH JAISWAL)

(a): Yes Sir, the Government has announced an open sky policy from 1.12.2004 to 31.03.2005. However, there is no complaint/report regarding unending queues at the immigration.

(b) & (c): Following steps have been taken by the Government to reduce immigration clearance time:

(i) introduction of Passport Reading Machines (PRMs) at IG International Airport Delhi;

(ii) serpentine queues with separate counters for Indians and Foreigners on the arrival side;

(iii) modernization of important Immigration Check Posts (ICPs); and

(iv) introduction of simplified Disembarkation/Embarkation cards.